What is claimed is:

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- 1. A device for isolating nucleic acids from a sample comprising:
 - (a) a first vessel, capable of holding the sample, having an opening,
 - (b) a closing element comprising a nucleic-acid-binding, liquid-permeable material, wherein the closing element comprises means for attaching the closing element to a second vessel on a side facing away from the first vessel, and
 - (c) a second vessel capable of applying an underpressure.
- 10 2. A method of testing a nucleic acid sample comprising:
 - transferring a sample from a first vessel through a nucleic acid binding, liquid-permeable material to a second vessel; and
 - (b) testing the sample, wherein the first vessel has an opening, the second vessel is capable of applying an underpressure, the first vessel is attached to a closing element, the second vessel is connected to the closing element on a side facing away from the first vessel, and the closing element comprises the nucleic-acid-binding, liquid-permeable material.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising eluting nucleic acids from the nucleic-acid-binding material.
- 20 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising contacting the sample in the first vessel with the material by rotating the first vessel before transferring the sample thorough the material.